THE LEMON GROVE REVIEW

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Inside: Vote for the Easties!

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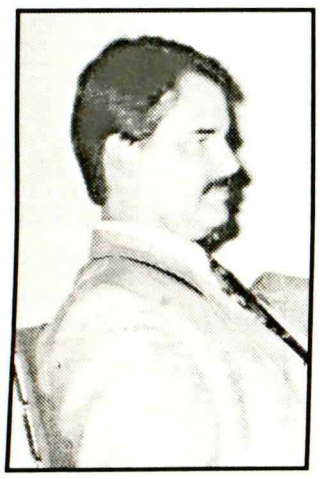
Bob Richardson named as acting city manager

by Cheryl Cohen

Any suspense as to who will fill the position of (former) Lemon Grove City Manager Doug Yount has been broken, at least on a temporary basis.

In a closed session vote of 4 - 1 this week, City Council has appointed Assistant City Manager Bob Richardson to the position of acting city manager until Yount's replacement is found.



Bob Richardson

Councilman Craig Lake, who cast the lone dissenting vote, explained his opposition as a statement against what he views as the usual complacency of council.

"Sometimes we have to escape being so predictable," said Lake.

He instead wanted to draw a candidate from the pool of former city managers available to serve as interim managers through the League of California Cities.

Lake said his opinion was not intended as a bad reflection on Richardson.

"It's just bad policy not to bring someone form the outside in after all the problems we've had," he said. "We need a fresh voice in the midst of this chaos."

Lake is referring to the accumulated upheaval at City Hall brought on by the almost in-concert resignations of approximately 30 percent of city staff personnel, the dismissal of Yount and lingering morale problems among remaining staffers.

Yount was fired in a unanimous closed-session vote earlier this month and was released from his duties immediately. Up until the vote this week, Richardson had been carrying out the duties of acting city manager without the benefit of title or pay increase.

In a follow-up closed session last week, Councilman Tom Clabby was appointed to "explore" negotiations regarding Richardson's promotion.

"In light of the fact that Richardson was so close to the situation, it would have been better to bring in someone with a more objective viewpoint," said Lake.

He said that management tasks such as the budgeting process are "academic," and could be handled easily by anyone possessing experience in the process, such as a retired city manager.

He added that retired managers such as the those in the League of California Cities' pool, are usually available at a much lower rate of pay, as they're limited as to what they can make without losing other retirement benefits they may have.

After council approved Richardson, it voted unanimously to approve an interim salary hike of 15 percent (bringing his monthly salary to $7379, or $88,548 annually) along with an increase in his monthly car allowance of $100 (bringing that amount to $350 monthly).

Richardson is expected to continue the stop-gap duties as acting city manager for the next four to six months, said Mayor Mary Sessom.

"It is our intention to have a new city manager in place within that time," said Sessom.

Recruitment methods will be discussed at the next city council meeting on Tuesday.

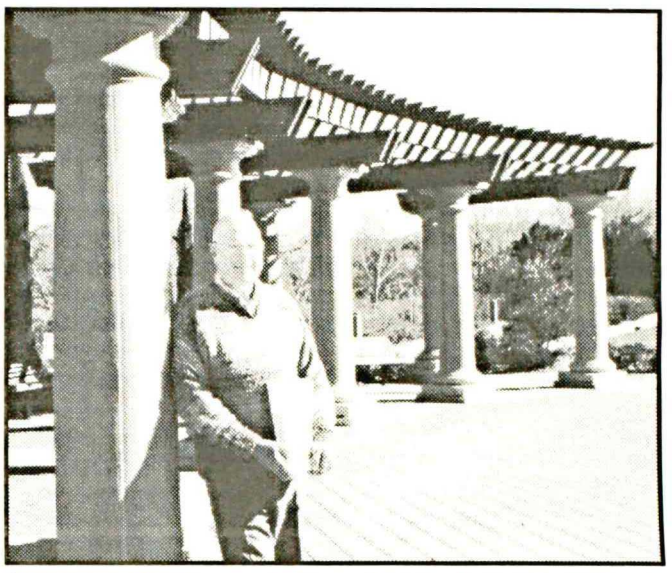
When the new manager is found, both Richardson's position and salary will revert back to that of assistant city manager.

The issue of who will serve as assistant city manager during the interim period was not discussed.

"I assume we will be operating without one," said City Clerk Christine Taub.

Mortimer Adler fans have eyes for Paideia charter school in region

by Ninette Sosa



If Bob Byron has his way, Santee will be the first city in California to boast a charter school based on Adler's Socratic teaching methods.

Photo by Ninette Sosa

It's called Paideia and it could be coming to a school near you — soon.

After years of planning, Bob Byron and four other board members of the Urban Systems Institute hope to see their dream of a liberal arts charter school become a reality in Santee. Santee would join Lakeside and La Mesa in the field of charter schools.

Byron has a March 21 deadline to apply for the charter, which would implement Dr. Mortimer Adler's theories of teaching reading, writing, listening, speaking and logical thinking.

Adler is a 96-year-old Bay Area resident best known for his book entitled, *Reforming Education - The Opening of the American Mind*. His other works include *Philosopher At Large* and *The Paideia Proposal - An Educational Manifesto*.

"Paideia" is not a common word and Denver is the nearest location of such a school. Byron says that paideia relates to assisting in the upbringing of a child, like helping a flower reach full bloom.

"These meanings capture the essence of the teaching and learning philosophy," Byron said. "It defines the teacher's role in bringing students into the world of knowledge under the guidance of a teacher and the student's mind develops in much the same way a flower comes to bloom under the hands of a skillful gardener."

Byron is a proponent of middle schools because he believes it sets up a transition for teenagers to handle adulthood. Introducing school-aged students in sixth, seventh and eighth grades into a world of responsibilities. "This is a formative and critical stage in a child's life," said Byron.

"The target with this charter school is to take the 'C' student and make them an 'A' student through a basic liberal art," he said. The teaching method will be divided into three categories, Socratic, coaching and lecture with the class size ranging from 12 (Socratic) to 40 (lecture) per class. Some classes will be taught one-on-one.

"The student-to-teacher ratio depends on method that will be used," said Byron.

There will not be text book summaries for instruction — instead students will be introduced to actual documents. A bell will not ring at 53 or 57 minute intervals. The entire morning would focus on a particular subject and in the afternoon there would be a blend of every focus on a project.

Teachers will determine time allocations. During the school year, physics, biology, chemistry, math, etc. will be taught sequentially but in related groups or modules.

One or more months will be blocked for each module. Teachers and students will have a teamwork atmosphere in sharing knowledge.

There will be flexibility for students, especially those who accelerate quickly through the learning process. A sixth grade student who is learning quickly could move onto a class with eighth graders.

The initial goal is one-hundred sixth grade students and over the next three years to add grade's seventh and eighth, for a total enrollment of three-hundred.

While the idea is a good one, bringing it to fruition is another task. The state of California will review thousands of applications for charter schools and usually a charter is issued to an area that is considered 'at risk,' where family incomes are below a national average.

Currently the Santee school district is allotted slightly more than $3,700 per child by the state government to attend school. If the charter school gets the go-ahead and 100 Santee students switch over to the 'other' school, the money from the district will then go to fund the charter.

Assembly Bill 544 that was created to outline charter school requirements also states that the district would be required to provide space, if available, for the charter school at no cost.

When Byron submits the application for the school it will have first been reviewed by Santee's school board at their March 2 meeting and will include signatures by parents or guardians of pupils equal to at least half of the total school enrollment and half of the teachers that would be needed to teach that amount of students.

The school board can accept or deny the application. In case of denial, it could then be filed with the county or with the State Board of Education.

"I can choose to embrace the program or treat it like a step-child," said Santee School Superintendent Marcia Johnson, who said, "I rather embrace this program."

Johnson has offered Byron all the tools necessary for researching what would be needed for the school. If there is enough support in the form of signatures from students and families who would want to attend this type of school, she said she will agree with them.

"I am a believer in a K-through-8 school system because that is a different type of teaching," said Johnson.

In July, Helix High School officially became a charter High School after years in the planning stages. Presently, it is the only comprehensive Charter High School in San Diego County.

"The 1950's school system is obsolete," said Helix Principal Dr. Douglas Smith. "This will better prepare students for the 21st cen-

Letters to the Editor

Killing machines

It was very amusing to read the article in Friday's *Union-Tribune* about hand guns made just for killing.

The amusing part was about the New York jury's decision. Decisions from people that have never seen or even believe the thing that the decision is about ever existed is like filling up a strainer with a teacup.

I remember hearing of the court case in New York where a man was accused of killing a neighbor's cow. The man was acquitted because the jury did not believe there was such a thing as a cow. This may sound strange, but there was a person I became acquainted with that owned a five-year-old German shepherd dog that had never been on the ground. His apartment was on the 75th floor.

It is hard to make decisions about something you have never had experience with or do not know any thing about.

Ninety-nine percent of laws concerning guns are made from the lobby against guns based upon ignorance, the desire for prestige or notoriety or to merely stir up controversy. They have never relied upon a gun to put food on the table, to defend their property or themselves from predators, to enjoy the sport of target shooting or the hobby of collecting.

They do not know that the first step in taking away the freedom of a country is taking away the means of defense. The founders of our constitution knew this from history and personal experience. That is the reason for the Second Amendment.

Guns would be no problem if the laws pertaining to them would bear hard against the use instead of the ownership. Laws pertaining to ownership harasses only the law-abiding citizen. To a felonious-minded person, the law means nothing.

Does anyone with a sane mind think an intended lawbreaker is going to give his name, address and fingerprints and wait five days to purchase a gun? NOT! The law must pertain to the use and eradication of the unjust user.

The elimination of guns is impossible. The controversy by queer and eccentric-minded people exists only to keep politicians in business and sell news.

To use false and unjust means to gain a purpose, such as the spotted owl, snail darter, black-tailed gnatcatcher, kangaroo rat and many other ridiculous examples shows a basic ignorance or a selfish interest of a small minority.

Where are we headed?

WILLIAM RIDGWAY
La Mesa

College prep pow-wow scheduled

Representatives from local universities and colleges will visit East County with "College: Making It Happen," a free college preparation program designed for students in grades six through eight and their parents.

The presentation is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. March 11 at La Presa Middle School, 519 La Presa Ave. in Spring Valley. The purpose of this annual program is to reaffirm the message that college preparation begins many years before the final year of high school and that college planning is a family affair.

Participating colleges will include University of California San Diego, San Diego State University, Cal-State University San Marcos, Point Loma Nazarene, University, United State International University and all of San Diego County's community colleges.

The presentation will provide practical and easy-to-understand information on how to prepare for college in advance, academically and financially, including a video, "College: Making It Happen."

This is the first video developed jointly by all of California's education systems, from kindergarten to college. Spanish and English versions of the video will be shown, as well as a signed version for the benefit of the hearing impaired.

Following the video, representatives from local colleges will answer questions and provide written materials with practical tips on how to prepare for college. For further information, call Patricia Silvas at 594-2921.

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County receives awards for historic park projects

County officials accepted two Governor's Historic Preservation Awards, honoring restoration work at the Rancho Guajome Adobe in Vista and the Vallecito Stage Station in East County's Vallecito County Park.

The 1997 award was for a $1.3 million restoration project at the Rancho Guajome Adobe, which was completed in 1996. The money came from federal, state and private grants, plus about $200,000 from the county's general fund.

The adobe was built in 1853, and has been owned by the county since the early 1970s. The building has been designated as a state and national historic landmark, and is used for special events and school education trips throughout the year.

The 1998 Governor's award was for a $25,000 restoration project at the Vallecito Stage Station, which is made of sod and includes a number of rooms. Volunteers from Americorps and E Clampus Vitus provided labor, and the money came from the county's general fund.

Currently, the station is open by appointment only. A well-preserved portion of the Butterfield Overland Stage Line, which was served by the station, is still visible not far from the park.

Officials with the state Office of Historic Preservation and the National Park Service were on hand at this week's Board of Supervisors meeting to present the awards.

Forum!

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County to seek information technology

The county Board of Supervisors approved an ambitious plan to retool the county's computer and telephone systems with an eye toward creating a "virtual government" for the new millennium.

Under the plan approved this week, internationally recognized companies from the information technology field will bid for a county contract with an estimated value of $500 million to $700 million over 10 years.

By outsourcing its computer and telephone systems, the county aims to streamline its operations, generating savings that can be reinvested into direct public services.

"The IT project will make San Diego County a leader not only in the technology arena, but in all aspects of government service," said Chairwoman Pam Slater of the county Board of Supervisors. "We will create a 'No wrong door' approach that means citizens can get the best, most efficient services possible, no matter where they live or what services they need."

The board voted unanimously to issue a request for proposals which will be used by the vendors as a blueprint to prepare their bids. The current timeline calls for awarding a contract to the winning vendor by early fall.

County officials expect the information technology project to benefit citizens by making it faster and more convenient to do business with the county. Everything from birth certificates to building permits will be available online once the technology overhaul takes place.

Residents can access these services from their computers at home or at work, or from computer kiosks or ATMs in public locations.

The county will strictly monitor and enforce the provisions of the IT contract through a Chief Technology Officer, who will answer to the Board of Supervisors and the chief administrative officer.

More than 90 percent of San Diego County's 836 major computer systems are now Y2K compliant, and work to convert the rest of the systems will be finished late this summer, months before the clock strikes midnight on Jan. 1, 2000.

County computer experts began the conversion in 1996, and the total price tag for the work is expected to reach $17 million.

"Thanks to long-term planning and an early start on this process, we expect to make a smooth transition into the new millennium, with little or no disruptions in County services," said Amy Sheridan, the county's Y2K czar. "However, contingency plans are in place to continue providing vital services in the event of an unanticipated Y2K problem."

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First Annual

Children's Holistic Health Fair

Saturday, March 6
9:00am- 5:30pm

A Charitable Fundraiser for the *Waldorf School of San Diego*

Location:
3547 Altadena Ave, San Diego
Between Euclid Ave & University Ave

Tickets:

Adults $25 full day, $15 half day
1st Child $15 full day, $10 half day; additional children $7.50 each
ADVANCE PURCHASE FAMILY PACKAGE (2 adults, 2 children) $65
Advance ticket purchase recommended. Mail your check or money order, payable to The Waldorf School of San Diego, to Children's Health Fair, c/o Lamat Medical Corp., 4730 Palm Ave., Ste 205, La Mesa, CA 91941. For additional information, call **619 500-2208** or **www.waldorf-sandiego.org**

Vegetarian Lunch:
served 11:45am to 1:15pm
Adult $5.00, Child $2.50

Infant and toddler daycare
(requires reservations)
with a full day of activities for children 3 and up

Many vendors, educational booths, raffles, giveaways, and therapeutic demonstrations

Information and opinions presented do not necessarily represent the beliefs of The Waldorf School of San Diego.

Keynote Speakers

10:00 am
Pediatrician Paul Fleiss, MD
"New Perspectives: Five Hot Topics in Children's Health"

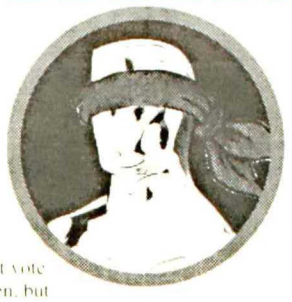
1:30 pm
Charlotte Gerson
"The Role of Diet in Children's Health - Preventing Serious Disease"

17 additional speakers, including:
Rainbow Casey, MD, DO - "Anthroposophic Medicine for Parents"
Robert Hickman, PhD and Lauren Hickman - "Taking Charge of the TV"
Nonie Bradley and Sherry Ittner - "Redirecting Children's Behavior"
Joyce Golden Seyburn, author - "Seven Secrets to Raising a Happy, Healthy Child"
Nicolai Lannoy, DC - "Natural Medicine Tips for Healthier Children"
Joseph Watson, DO - "The Pros and Cons of Immunizations"
Charlotte Dolden - "Waldorf Education: A Basis for Developing Healthy Children"

and many others with topics on holistic health from conception through the teen years.

Designed by Carl Mathewson © 1999

Easties Ballot



Celebrate local theater!

The following people have been nominated by East County theater writers for outstanding performances during 1998. Please vote under these guidelines:

1. If you haven't seen the show, don't vote for the actor. Vote for anyone you've seen, but please don't submit ballots because you happen to know the actor.

2. Anonymous ballots will not be counted. We reserve the right to verify the authenticity of any ballot by calling the voter directly.

3. Casting a ballot will enter you in a drawing for tickets to local theater productions.

4. Two awards will be given on Eastie Night as determined by a vote of the audience attending the awards ceremony, Saturday, March 20 at Lamplighters Community Theater in La Mesa.

Mail ballot to: Box 127, Lemon Grove, CA 91946.

Best Actress (Drama)

- ❑ Meghan Blaine - (Cherie) "Bus Stop" *Octad*
- ❑ Darlene Cleary - (Kate Keller) "All My Sons" *Lamp*
- ❑ Jill Virginia Costanzo - (Annie Sullivan) "The Miracle Worker" *Octad*
- ❑ Ginger Radenheimer - (Mother Miriam) "Agnes of God" *Octad*
- ❑ Layla Stuckey - (Agnes) "Agnes of God" *Octad*

Best Actor (Drama)

- ❑ Fred Bailey - (Joe Keller) "All My Sons" *Lamp*
- ❑ Wayne Erreca - (Danny Brophy) "Children of the Wind" *Octad*
- ❑ Ray Lybarger - (Bo Decker) "Bus Stop" *Octad*

Best Supporting Actress (Drama)

- ❑ Jill Drexler - (Dr. Livingston) "Agnes of God" *Octad*
- ❑ Winona McNitt - (Ann Deever) "All My Sons" *Lamp*
- ❑ Dawn Newbegin - (Helen Keller) "The Miracle Worker" *Octad*
- ❑ Ginger Radenheimer - (Grace) "Bus Stop" *Octad*
- ❑ Sidy Rayfeld - (Mae) "Children Of The Wind" *Octad*

Best Supporting Actor (Drama)

- ❑ Stephan Barr - (Captain Keller) "The Miracle Worker" *Octad*
- ❑ Andy Boutelle - (George Deever) "All My Sons" *Lamp*
- ❑ Wayne Erreca - (Will, the sheriff) "Bus Stop" *Octad*
- ❑ Danny Kolker - (Chris Keller) "All My Sons" *Lamp*
- ❑ John Mumford - (Dr. Lyman) "Bus Stop" *Octad*

Best Actress (Comedy)

- ❑ Sue Ellen Gerrells - (Laura Partridge) "Solid Gold Cadillac" *Lamp*
- ❑ Nancy Erneson - (Rosie, the dance hall Hoozier) "Showdown at the Rodeo Bar & Grill" *HLT*
- ❑ Debbie Walters - (wife) "Surprise Party" *HLT*

Best Actor (Comedy)

- ❑ Andy Boutelle - (Clifford Snell) "Solid Gold Cadillac" *Lamp*
- ❑ Danny Campbell - (Felix Unger) "The Odd Couple" *Octad*
- ❑ Daniel Hall - (Ted Sterling) "Surprise Party" *HLT*
- ❑ Mark Rangel (Reporter) "Murder On The Trail" *HLT*
- ❑ Tom Schmidt - (Oscar Madison) "The Odd Couple" *Octad*

Best Supporting Actress (Comedy)

- ❑ Kelly Bush - (Gwendolyn Pidgeon) "The Odd Couple" *Octad*
- ❑ Andrea Clark - (teenage lover) "Surprise Party" *HLT*
- ❑ Nancy Erneson - (Sandy Sterling) "Surprise Party" *HLT*
- ❑ Katie Gallagher - (Mrs. Logan) "Solid Gold Cadillac" *Lamp*
- ❑ Cambria Morales - (Cecily Pidgeon) "The Odd Couple" *Octad*

Best Supporting Actor (Comedy)

- ❑ David Dartt - (Bobby Franklin) "Run for Your Wife" *Lamp*
- ❑ Charlie Dwyer - (Speed) "The Odd Couple" *Octad*
- ❑ Ski Mark Ford - (Leo Herman/Chuckles) "A Thousand Clowns" *Lamp*
- ❑ Jeff Anthony Miller - (Malvolio) "Twelfth Night" *Octad*
- ❑ Neal Sullivan - (Old man) "Surprise Party" *HLT*

Best Actress (Musical)

- ❑ Aspen Miller - (Maria) "West Side Story" *CCT*
- ❑ Eleni Gianulis - (Aldonza) "Man Of La Mancha" *CCT*
- ❑ Stephanie Hargrove - (Fairy Godmother) "Cinderella" *CCT*
- ❑ Joan Kearns - (Dolly) "Hello Dolly" *Lamplighters*

Best Actor (Musical)

- ❑ James McWhinney - (Tony) "West Side Story" *CCT*
- ❑ William Nolan - (Cervantes/Quixote) "Man Of La Mancha" *CCT*
- ❑ Justin Parks - (Riff) "West Side Story" *CCT*
- ❑ Ken Rose - (Ebenezer Scrooge) "Traditions Of Christmas" *CCT*

Best Supporting Actress (Musical)

- ❑ Ruthann Fraker (Housekeeper) "Man of La Mancha" *CCT*
- ❑ Marianne Nevatt - (Minnie) "Hello Dolly" *Lamp*
- ❑ Kathy Sanchez - (Anita) "West Side Story" *CCT*
- ❑ Moriah Seebold - (Anybodys) "West Side Story" *CCT*
- ❑ Elayn Thoeny - (Portia) "Cinderella" *CCT*

Best Supporting Actor (Musical)

- ❑ Bryant Callihan - (Sancho) "Man Of La Mancha" *CCT*
- ❑ James Flynn - (The Padre) "Man of La Mancha" *CCT*
- ❑ Donal Pugh - (Lt. Schrank) "West Side Story" *CCT*
- ❑ Frank Remuzzi - (Cornelius) "Hello Dolly" *Lamp*
- ❑ Steve Richards - (King) "Cinderella" *CCT*

Name:
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Lemon Twist

Wagging body parts

by Cheryl Cohen

Here's a note of note: The Lemon Grove Hysterical Society's Runti Kallis will present a two-part slide lecture called, "Historic Wharves and Saloons of San Diego Bay" at the 1999 Congress of History Convention, March 5 - 6 aboard the 1898 ferryboat, Berkeley, at the San Diego Embarcadero. This unique series will not only feature the maritime history of San Diego, but also the brothels, "ladies of the evening" and historic saloons which permeated the downtown area from the 1500s until the 1980s when Horton Plaza shoved them all to East County.

There, the market for seedy tabloids grew accordingly (until El Cajon City Councilman Bob McClellan purchased all the copies from the curbside boxes for the sake of "research") and the "ladies of the evening" gave way to certified massage therapists. Why didn't they just name the series, "Historic Whores and Saloons" and get it over with?

As far as the saloons go, I doubt if Lemon Grove could ever compete historically with the likes of the Waterfront on Kettner, where they must still have some greasy cheeseburgers left over from the 1800s, but I'd venture to guess that it *seems* like Little Darlings has been around at least that long to some local city officials here. At any rate, contact the society at 463-9193 for more information.

Oh, and while you're wondering what to do with that tax refund, consider giving it to the society to help them finish the second story in the Parsonage building. They're looking for $6,450 in contributions to bolster up the safety factor and make it so that they don't have to combine the first and second floors by accident.

Rosemary Putnam is a tough act to follow, but if you want to be among the first to see who will succeed her with this year's Lemon Grove Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Award for "Citizen of the Year," you'll have to attend the installation dinner starting at 6 p.m. on March 20 at the Town & Country Hotel in Missing Valley. The ordeal costs $35, but it includes hosted hors d'oeuvres during the "social hour," and if you buy enough drinks, you may become social enough to make some new friends! (You don't even have to drive back home, as the hotel will be offering special rates of $79 for double occupancy. That does, however, mean you'll have to find someone to fulfill the "double" part of that room price, but those details may also be realized by the social hour, depending on if you're a friendly drunk, or the other kind.)

We all want to thank citizen-activist Jay Cochrane for coming out of retirement for last week's council meeting, which he attended at great risk to his television fulfillment quotient. It seems he gave up "Frontline" to wag his finger from the podium and tell council members to "get on this census thing," and to inform Bob Richardson that he's been "hanging around with the wrong guys for a long time." With the wages that Richardson will be pulling down now as acting city manager, he should be able to hang with just about anyone he wants, I'd imagine. (What kind of drama school do you have to go to in order to get a title like that, anyway?)

That same meeting's consent agenda held a special place in my heart, when your lovely mayor, Mme. M, decided in Yountish-fashion to bring a proposal forward to place a $532 ad in the *Daily Californian's* insert called "Horizons." Her reason? The city needs some *positive press* for a change, she said as she wagged her eyebrows in my specific direction. And I can't even get a return phone call from staff about Paint Lemon Grove or an appointment to discuss things that've come in under budget.

Ahh, well. The proposal didn't pass. Still, I can't help but make a suggestion: Dear Mme. M. – You want some good press? *Do good things*. If the city can't manage that, then they could simply pay Forum $320 for a full page ad in our six newspapers reaching twice the circulation, and make it just as puffy as you please. Hey, we're here to help.

If you have anything to ad or AD, don't hesitate to contact us here at the Review, or give me a call at 619-264-3153 (msg.), 264-4180 (fax), visit us at www.forumpubs.com, visit my home page at www.geocities.com/SoHo/5062 or e-mail me at cirious@cts.com.

Lemon Grove Sheriff's Log

Dec. 26, 1998 - Jan. 5, 1999
1500 blk. Dupont Dr. Residential burglary. $302 value.
Jan. 4 - Feb. 12, 1999
3500 blk. Grove St. Petty theft. No value given.
Jan. 11 - 22, 1999
1800 blk. Madera. Vehicle burglary. $15 value.
Jan. 28, 1999
7500 blk. Broadway. Commercial burglary. $60 value.
Feb. 3, 1999
7700 blk. Lansing Dr. Grand theft. $3,626 value.
Feb. 6, 1999
2500 blk. Grove St. Robbery. $140 value.

(619) 465-USED
La Mesa Used Books
MAGAZINES, MAPS, SHEET MUSIC
Lee Ashmore
Owner
8274 La Mesa Blvd.
La Mesa, CA 91941

WEATHER

The following information was provided by the National Weather Service

	High	Low
February 15	64	44
February 16	63	43
February 17	68	46
February 18	61	52
February 19	67	46
February 20	75	47
February 21	63	48

The Lemon Grove Review

Box 127, Lemon Grove, CA 91946 • (619) 469-0101

Published Tuesdays and Thursdays
Adjudicated a newspaper of general circulation in Superior Court of State of California in and for San Diego County, December 5, 1949. Entered as Third Class matter in La Mesa, CA.

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Steven Saint, Publisher
Assistants to the publisher: Cheryl Cohen, Trudy Thomas
Sports Editor: Mary Rosen
Contributing writers: Cheryl Cohen, Michael Krawczak, Joe Narman, Paul Treske, Betty Jo Tucker, Jason Williams

Submissions

Letters, editorial and photo submissions are welcome, but will not be returned to sender unless accompanied by self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Material can be sent via e-mail at the following address: yscmr@adnc.com

All materials must be received by the Monday preceding the date of publication. The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions.

Advertising

All advertising is subject to current rate card. The publisher reserves the right to reject an advertiser's order.

Only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance.

Send all correspondence to: Forum Publications, Inc., P.O. Box 127, Lemon Grove, CA 91946

Lemon Grove Almanac

1994 Population:	**25,100**
Incorporated:	**1977**
Area:	**3.75 sq. mi.**
Median income:	**$34,399**
1996-97 city budget:	**$26.3 million**
1996 taxable sales:	**$265 million**
Mayor:	**Mary Teresa Sessom**
Council:	**Thomas Clabby**
	Craig Lake
	Dwight Shelley
	Jill Greer
Acting City Manager:	**Bob Richardson**
Planning Director:	**Linda Niles**
City Attorney:	**Gloria McLean**

M is for Mayor

Personal comments of Mayor Mary Sessom

Can't afford to miss a single Lemonite

Chuck Pennell, Lemon Grove's representative to the Census 2000 committee, gave the City Council an update on the status of this committee. There is concern on his part that we not undercount our residents this census. Undercounting costs us tens of thousands of dollars in potential funding we are eligible for from the federal government. Pennell is very committed to this city and getting all that we are entitled to. We are appreciative of his effort.

This Census 2000 report led a citizen to address the Council about his concerns for increasing densities in the San Diego region. Sandag has predicted that by the year 2020, one million more people will be living in this region. Construction of new housing is the only way to accommodate these new residents (most of whom will be our children and not folks from outside the area). Where this housing will be built is the question of debate – do we fill in the areas in our cities that can use redevelopment or do we expand out into the rural areas. I suspect that this debate will rage hot and heavy over the next few years. Most importantly, how are we doing in Lemon Grove?

This city really has no huge open areas left for construction. If we are going to build new housing, it will have to be in-fill housing within areas that are privately owned and being used for purposes other than residential. We have not done a survey on this sort of land in the city, but those of us who drive our streets know that there are some pieces of property that are vacant, run-down or have only a few houses for several acres. These parcels, especially if they are close to the trolley stations will be the logical places for developers to look at.

Will increased density be a terrible thing for our city? Probably not, if we manage it wisely and preserve the large lots that we have in our older neighborhoods. This city is currently "full," at least according to the latest survey by the San Diego County Apartment Association. Lemon Grove's vacancy rate is 1.4 percent (out of 284 units, we have four vacant).

I believe this increase in residents is good for our businesses and for our property owners. Prices for detached homes have had a significant increase in the last two years. The countywide median price for a home in 1996 was $171,000 and in 1998 it was $195,500. Last week, the median price of houses sold in Lemon Grove was $139,000 and the 1998 median was $133,000. Increasing density is a two-edged sword. We need to make sure the negative side of this sword is blunted.

PUBLIC NOTICE

SUMMARY OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2.16 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE ORDINANCE NO. 291

On February 16, 1999, the City Council of the City of Lemon Grove, California, adopted Ordinance No. 291. Ordinance No. 291 provides additional compensation of seventy-five percent of Council compensation, for the elected mayor commencing upon certification of the results of the election in the year 2000.

Voting for: Sessom, Lake, Clabby, Greer, Shelley

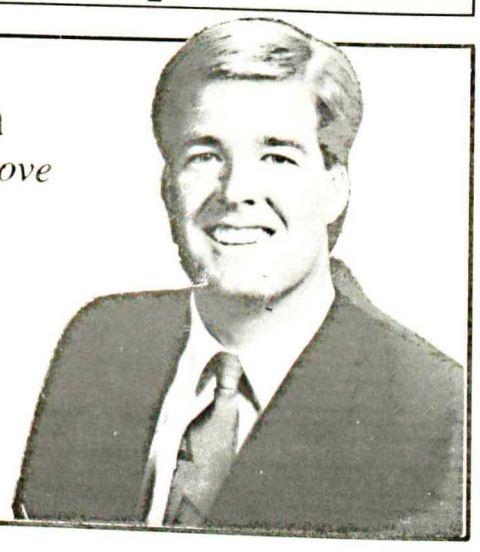
The full text of said Ordinance is on file in the Office of the City Clerk at 3232 Main Street, Lemon Grove, California 91945.

CHRISTINE TAUB
FINANCE DIRECTOR/
CITY CLERK

Lemon Grove Review
February 25, 1999

www.forumpubs.com

Dr. Shawn Stoddard
Treats neck and back pain
Hundreds helped in Lemon Grove
Call 466-0806
Preferred provider for most networks
Stoddard Chiropractic
7366 Broadway
(2 Blks east of Massachusetts)



Why East County needs Proposition L

by Mayor Art Madrid

Everyone benefits from good libraries, however, children benefit most since they make up nearly half of all library users.

The La Mesa Library, which opened in November of 1957, outgrew its 8,600 square feet facility long ago. It's old and it shows. We need much more space, especially for children's programs and for community meetings.

We also need more computers. Currently there are only two computers to provide Internet service and we don't have any computers to provide word processing. And we need more hours so that the library is open when it is convenient for you.

The Friends of the La Mesa Library are among the more than 350 elected officials, civic organizations and community groups endorsing Proposition L, the Community Libraries Enhancement Ordinance.

The passage of Proposition L will bring exciting improvements to the La Mesa Library. It will enable us to expand our library, to provide new computers and technology, plenty of new books and materials and extended hours so that the enhanced La Mesa Library will be open when you want to use it.

Proposition L is a sound investment, has built-in safeguards to protect the public and the cost is very low. Here is how it works:

Every city benefits. All funds raised in each city stay there to improve local service. No city subsidizes another and each community decides how their funds will be spent.

Full local control. Every community decides for itself how to improve libraries. No strings. No bureaucrats. Every penny goes for local libraries. Politicians can't touch it for any other purpose.

Strict fiscal accountability. Full public disclosure. Rigorous annual audits.

The cost is small. It is 1/4 of a penny sales tax for five years only.

That works out to about the price of one hardcover book a year.

Good libraries benefit everyone, especially our children. The greatest gift we can give them is a first-rate library ready for the 21st century. I urge you to vote yes on Proposition L on March 2nd. Remember, we need every single vote.

Worship Directory

ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH
8086 BROADWAY, LEMON GROVE, CA 91945
PASTOR MSGR. EDWARD BROCKHAUS
466-3209

Mass Schedule
Saturday Evening: 5:30 p.m.
Sunday: 7, 8:30 & 10 a.m. (English) 11:30 a.m. (Spanish) 5:30 p.m. (English), 7 p.m. (Spanish)

LEMON GROVE CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
2770 Glebe Road • Lemon Grove
Edward Pettis, Pastor
Sunday Worship & Church School 10:15 a.m.

Lemon Grove Assembly of God
Currently using the
Mount Miguel High School at
1800 Sweetwater Road
Worship Service & Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Nursery & Child Care provided
Pastor Jim Reed 697-7770

LEMON GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Loving God - Living Christ
Corner Skyline and Alton Drive
John R. Embree, Pastor
Laurie Line, Intern Pastor
Telephone: 465-7301
Worship Services:
Traditional 9 a.m. Contemporary 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

Lemon Grove Christian Church
6970 San Miguel Ave.
Lemon Grove
(2 Blocks West of Mass.)
Myron Wells
Senior Minister
The End of Your Search for a Friendly Bible Church
Uplifting Music • Sunday School • Nursery
Excellent Youth Ministry, Preschool and Daycare
Worship: Sunday at 9:00 am & 10:40 am • Saturday at 6:00 pm
Church: 465-1888 • Preschool: 465-1887

PUBLIC NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
Assigned File No 99002628
The Name of the Business
[illegible]
located at [illegible] Avenue in Lemon Grove, CA 91945 P.O. Box [illegible] CA 92021 is hereby registered by the following owner:

BILL DE CLAIRVILLE
1637 WOODROW AVE
LEMON GROVE, CA 91945

This business is conducted by an Individual
The transaction of business began on 1-2-99
Signature of Registrant
BILL DE CLAIRVILLE
This statement was filed with Gregory J. Smith the Recorder/ County Clerk of San Diego County on JAN 28, 1999
Lemon Grove Review
Feb 4, 11, 18 & 25, 1999

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
Assigned File No 99002280
The Name of the Business
SHIPPING SOLUTIONS PLUS
located at 9725 Mission Gorge Rd. in Santee 92071 is hereby registered by the following owner

R. WAYNE MONROE
6802 CLARA LEE AVE
SAN DIEGO, CA 92120

This business is conducted by an Individual
The transaction of business began on N/A
Signature of Registrant
R. WAYNE MONROE
This statement was filed with Gregory J. Smith the Recorder/ County Clerk of San Diego County on JAN 26, 1999
Lemon Grove Review
Feb 4, 11, 18 & 25, 1999

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
Assigned File No 99000907
The Name of the Business
MAIDINHEAVEN
ENVIRONMENTAL
MAINTENANCE
located at 6395 Madrone Ave. in San Diego 92114 is hereby registered by the following owner

GAY A. COWART
6395 MADRONE AVE
SAN DIEGO, CA 92114

This business is conducted by an Individual
The transaction of business began on 1-14-99
Signature of Registrant
GAY A. COWART
This statement was filed with Gregory J. Smith the Recorder/ County Clerk of San Diego County on JAN 11, 1999
Lemon Grove Review
Feb 4, 11, 18 & 25, 1999

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
Assigned File No 99002141
The Name of the Business
SCRIPPS HAIR AND SKIN GALLERY
located at 9825 Carroll Canyon Rd., Ste. L & M in San Diego, CA 92131 is hereby registered by the following owners

ROBIN ANDERSON
4658 PARKS AVE
LA MESA, CA 91941

CINDY BRISCO
4658 PARKS AVE
LA MESA, CA 91941

This business is conducted by a General Partnership
The transaction of business began on 1-25-99
Signature of Registrant
ROBIN ANDERSON
This statement was filed with Gregory J. Smith the Recorder/ County Clerk of San Diego County on JAN 25, 1999
Lemon Grove Review
Feb 4, 11, 18 & 25, 1999

SUMMONS
CITACION JUDICIAL

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT:
(Aviso al Acusado)
NORAY COOK and DOES 1 through 10, inclusive

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF:
(Lo esta demandando)
AMERICAN FIRST FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

You have **30 CALENDAR DAYS** after this Summons is served on you to file a typewritten response at this court.
A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your typewritten response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.
There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may call an attorney referral service or a legal aid office (listed in the phone book).

Después de que le entreguen esta citación judicial, usted tiene un plazo de **30 DIAS CALENDARIOS** para presentar una respuesta escrita a máquina en esta corte.

Una carta o una llamada telefónica no le ofrecerá protección. Su respuesta escrita a máquina tiene que cumplir con las formalidades legales apropiadas si usted quiere que la corte escuche su caso.

Si usted no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso y le pueden quitar su salario, su dinero y otras cosas de su propiedad sin aviso adicional por parte de la corte.

Existen otros requisitos legales. Puede que usted quiera llamar a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de referencia de abogados o a una oficina de ayuda legal (vea el directorio telefónico).

CASE NUMBER (Número del Caso): **98N C 18084**

The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y dirección de la corte es):

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF ORANGE, NORTH JUSTICE CENTER
1275 N. Berkeley Avenue
Fullerton, California 92835

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):

Eric Anthony Joe - Bar #105793
MCKINLEY & CAPELOTO
2 N. Lake Avenue, Suite 640
Pasadena, California 91101

TELEPHONE NUMBER
(626) 793-7788

Date (Fecha) SEP 03 1998

ALAN SLATER
Clerk, by (Actuario) ELIZABETH ROJAS, Deputy (Delegado)

CNS 1683620

Lemon Grove Review
Feb 11, 18, 25 & March 4, 1999

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION

Notice is hereby given that the personal property in the following units will be sold at public auction, on the 9th day of March, 1999 at or after 9:00 a.m. pursuant to the California Self-Storage Facility Act. The sale will be conducted at: Lemon Grove U-Haul Center, 1805 Massachusetts Ave., Lemon Grove, CA 91945. The items to be sold are generally described as follows: clothing, furniture, and/or other household items stored by the following persons:

Unit Number	and Name:
005	Carmelita Cardenas
157	Andrew Murtomaki
176	Breanna Sandie
203	Angela Nixon
206	Oliver Flagg
224	Andrew Murtomaki
225	Jon J. Lingwall
325	Joseph Stein
327	Nichelle Doke
333	Diana Espinosa
358	Paul J. Garcia
364	Sandy Hemosillo
388	Brandon Weber
402	Ziyad Muhammad
417	David Womak
421	Lavon Hughes
1C 702H G	Sheri Easton
1C 305A H	Elliot Plaza
E H 036E I	Christina Wilson
G H 063 I L A	H. Carlita Smith

CNS 1664945
Lemon Grove Review
Feb 18 & 25, 1999

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Grossmont Union High School District will receive bids for purchase of:

PREPARED AND DELIVERED "HOT" HAMBURGERS AND CHICKEN SANDWICHES FOR ALL DISTRICT CAFETERIAS

Bid Forms, Bid Specifications, Bid Instructions and Bid Proposal Guarantee Forms may be obtained at the Purchasing Department of said District, located at 1100 Murray Drive, El Cajon, CA 92020-5664 (mailing address: P.O. Box 1043, La Mesa, CA 91944-1043); shall be sealed and filed in said Purchasing Department on or before **2:00 p.m.** on

MARCH 8, 1999

and will be publicly opened and read aloud at that time and place. The contract will be awarded to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder meeting specifications. The Grossmont Union High School District reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to accept or reject any one or more items of a bid or to waive any irregularities or informalities in the bids or in the bidding.
No bidder may withdraw his bid for a period of thirty (30) days after the date set for the opening of bids.
In the event of identical bids, the Governing Board may determine by lot which bid shall be accepted per Public Contract Code 20117.

Gary Cass
Clerk of the Governing Board
Grossmont Union High School District
Bid# 2769

Lemon Grove Review
Feb 18 & 25, 1999

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
Assigned File No 99001946
The Name of the Business
UP AND AT EM COMPUTER CONSULTANTS
located at 2095 Lemon Grove Ave. in Lemon Grove 91945 is hereby registered by the following owner

DON W. ANTON
2095 LEMON GROVE AVE
LEMON GROVE, 91945

This business is conducted by an Individual
The transaction of business began on N/A
Signature of Registrant
DON W. ANTON
This statement was filed with Gregory J. Smith the Recorder/ County Clerk of San Diego County on JAN 21, 1999
Lemon Grove Review
Feb 18, 25 & March 4, 1999

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Grossmont Union High School District will receive bids for purchase of:

GRADE REPORT MAILING SERVICES DISTRICTWIDE

Each bid shall be submitted on a form obtained at the Purchasing Department of said District, located at 1100 Murray Drive, El Cajon, CA 92020-5664 (mailing address: P.O. Box 1043, La Mesa, CA 91944-1043); shall be sealed and filed in said Purchasing Department on or before **2:00 p.m.** on

March 22, 1999

and will be publicly opened and read aloud at that time and place.
The contract will be awarded to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder meeting specifications. The Grossmont Union High School District reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to accept or reject any one or more items of a bid or to waive any irregularities or informalities in the bids or in the bidding.
No bidder may withdraw his bid for a period of thirty (30) days after the date set for the opening of bids.
In the event of identical bids, the Governing Board may determine by lot which bid shall be accepted per Public Contract Code 20117.

Gary Cass
Clerk of the Governing Board
Grossmont Union High School District

Bid # 2770
Lemon Grove Review
Feb. 25 & March 4, 1999

TS No.: 19989058602095 Loan No.: 3403681 FHA/VA/MI No:
NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 01/03/96. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On March 18, 1999 at 10:00 AM, **Lonestar Mortgagee Services, L.L.C.**, as duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded 01/11/96, as instrument No. 1996-0016497, in book , page 1108, of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of SAN DIEGO County, State of California. Executed by JOHN PHILLIP ZIMMERMAN, A SINGLE MAN WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH OR CASHIER'S CHECK, (payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States) AT THE SOUTH ENTRANCE TO THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE AT 220 WEST BROADWAY, SAN DIEGO, CA. (NOTE: CASHIER'S CHECK(S) MUST BE MADE PAYABLE TO LONESTAR MORTGAGEE SERVICES, L.L.C. all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County and State described as: As more fully described in the above mentioned Deed of Trust APN# 503-211-13-00. The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 2881 WASHINGTON STREET, LEMON GROVE, CA 91945. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, if any, under the terms of said Deed of Trust, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is $124,032.15. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located. Date: 02/25/99, **Lonestar Mortgagee Services, L.L.C.**, as Trustee, BRUCE COCKLIN, Authorized Signature, FOR TRUSTEE'S SALE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL (916) 974-6099, 15000 Surveyor Boulevard, Suite 250, Addison, Texas 75001, LONESTAR MORTGAGEE SERVICES, L.L.C., IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. NPP0058580, 02/25/99, 03/04/99, 03/11/99

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE Trustee Sale No. 98-03683 Loan No. 15062854 Title Order No. 8257697 APN 480-472-14-00 FHA # 044-3203834729 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 12/02/93. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On March 10, 1999, at 10:00 AM, **ARM FINANCIAL CORPORATION** as the duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded on 12/07/93 Instrument 1993-0820790, Book , Page of Official Records in the Office of the Recorder of SAN DIEGO County, California, executed by: JACK LUCERO, A SINGLE MAN; MELANIE BYRD, A SINGLE WOMAN, as Trustor, HOMESIDE LENDING, INC., as Beneficiary, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH (payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States, by cash, a cashier's check drawn by a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state). At AT THE SOUTH ENTRANCE TO THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE AT 220 WEST BROADWAY, SAN DIEGO, CA, all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County, California describing the land therein: "As more fully described on the above mentioned Deed of Trust". The property heretofore described is being sold "as is". The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 2649 CORONA STREET, LEMON GROVE, CA 91945. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, if any, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, estimated fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to - wit: $142,941.86 (Estimated) Accrued interest and additional advances, if any, will increase this figure prior to sale. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located and more than three months have elapsed since such recordation. Date: 02/17/99. **ARM FINANCIAL CORPORATION**, P.O. Box 85309, San Diego, CA 92186-5309, (619) 689-9735 ROBERT BOURNE, ASSISTANT SECRETARY NPP0057910 02/18/99, 02/25/99, 03/04/99

PG Perspectives

Getting an earfull

by Phillip Giannangeli

You can learn a lot by listening. And it won't cost too much. Some proof for the skeptical.

I recently heard an older man describing a bit of good luck he had at one of the Indian gaming casinos. I was having breakfast at this local eatery when the man walked in, trailed by his wife. He hailed a couple he knew at one of the tables and stopped to talk to them. Loudly, I might add.

Proudly, he announced that they weren't going to believe what he was about to tell them. Probably wouldn't be able to guess it in a million years, either. He reiterated this theme using variant phrases to tease their interest. It's kind of like what I'm doing right now to you. Boy, they sure weren't going to believe this one!

I'm not convinced that when he was finished telling them, they believed him. He'd been so very persuasive telling them not to believe, it must have been hard for them to come around to the believe side of the equation.

Oh, by the way, the subject? He was telling them how he won two hundred dollars at the slot machines at a local gambling casino. I didn't know whether to believe him either – I didn't know the man or his penchant for exaggeration – but, I did learn one thing: this listening habit can provide all sorts of insights and entertainment.

I recently overheard a couple of women at the super market – and no, I am not an audio (peeping) tom – discussing the men in their lives. From the fruits and produce section to the meats and dairy coolers, these women laid their men bare. I felt sorry for each man and thought they'd certainly need some sort of protection (public defender to security guard), if their relationships were what the women were contending.

When I finally parted ways with these two – (to the bakery, they towards paper products), the last comment I heard one of them make was "Gotta love the guy." From the way they excoriated these men, I would have doubted that even their mothers could have loved these guys.

Listening to the radio also provides food for thought, or at least a snack or two before the main course. I found out recently that Dr. Laura (the radio Dr. Laura as opposed to any other Dr. Laura there might be around) managed to dabble in a few Kodak moments for a boy friend a few years ago. Now it's come back to haunt her righteous persona.

Posing nude when you're young and nubile isn't a crime, but preaching and haranguing against similar kinds of libertine behavior some years later, when you're certainly not as young and might not be so nubile, is I think, something akin to hypocrisy.

What Dr. Laura now says is that her behavior back then was probably understandable, certainly exciting, and completely unacceptable in today's young people. Does that have the ring of hypocrisy to you? Yes, Dr. Laura, we're listening.

The last listening experience I'll relate involves teens. I'm always overhearing bits and pieces of their conversations. When one teen tells another teen something about a third teen that was said by a fourth teen, you know it can be confusing.

Decipher this: "Jackee told me not to tell you that Laura said that Janice found out that you were friends with Kelly. Is that tight or what?" It probably makes sense if you're tuned in to teen talk, but for someone whose receiver is broken, it's just a mystery.

Listening can be fun. It can be entertaining. It might even be confusing. But it is cheap.

Reel Thoughts

'8MM' unreels haunting detective yarn

by Betty Jo Tucker

Some movies reveal the darkest corners of the soul. Films like "Seven," "Silence of the Lambs" and "Unforgiven" raise questions about the limits of human depravity. And, they cause us to consider what our own actions might be in the face of such overwhelming evil.

"Eight Millimeter," with a screenplay by Andrew Kevin Walker (the same man who wrote "Seven"), falls into this provocative category.

Oscar-winner Nicolas Cage ("Leaving Las Vegas") stars as Tom Welles, a private detective searching for the truth behind a shocking piece of film that seems to show the actual killing of a young girl. Welles' investigation sucks him into a whirlpool of hard-core pornography, child abuse and terror. How far should he go to fight the crime and corruption he discovers? Must he become like the monsters he finds in order to stop them?

Cage calls this dark thriller from Columbia Pictures "a journey film – a descent into hell, except we're not in a jungle. We're in our own backyard." This is happening all around us, at any given time within the radius of a few square miles. If you pick up a rock and look underneath it, you're going to find creepy, wiggly things you don't like."

Both Cage and director Joel Schumacher ("The Client") wanted "Eight Millimeter" to focus on some difficult issues facing our country today.

In the production notes, Schumacher writes, "One can say that pornography is a disgusting world, and it is. But, who's supporting this industry? Just in this country, billions of dollars are being spent every year on mainstream and illegal pornography, something like $900 million just on phone sex alone.

"But what this film takes on is the even more deadly underbelly of this industry, which is the exploitation of minors. What's really tragic is how much kiddie porn is available out there, how big that network is, and how determined these people are to perpetuate it."

Tom Welles (Nicolas Cage) is a private investigator and family man living a simple life in Pennsylvania – until a reel of crudely shot film sends him down a sordid and terrifying path into society's darkest corners in the Columbia Pictures presentation, "8MM."

Obviously, "Eight Millimeter" should not be seen by everyone. In addition to its disturbing theme and extreme violence, it contains unsettling images of torture and bondage.

But, none who view the film will be able to forget it. Like Cage's vengeful private detective, they will be haunted by a nightmarish world most of them never dreamed existed. (Rumor has it Larry Flynt, of "Hustler" fame, objects to this movie. I wonder why?)

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Letters to the Editor

Disease gets blown around

Regarding William Ridgway's letter to the editor ["Modern medicine seeking old answers," Feb. 4 issue], I like and agree with his thinking. Many of us wish San Diego County would follow Los Angeles and outlaw dirt blowers.

Even watching some operators blow leaves and not scoop them up, but into a corner or across the street, is enough to see "time wasted" by noisy machines. Wild life is not crazy about us either but we've put cement jungles in their territory.

He mentions "expectorate from infected people ..." For years guys have hacked up oysters and stood looking with admiration at their new home on the ground. This was accepted behavior.

Now that I've allergies, sinusitis, mucus and wishing for stock in the Kleenex Co., I wonder how come females can't cough it into a tissue without everyone staring. Here's gross! A senior male sitting on a Vons bench, coughing, sneezing and spitting on the sidewalk while wiping his face with a very long white beard!

MURI REID
San Diego

Prop L 'Yes' vote important

Proposition L is the big news on the block this month! I hope everyone who reads this is properly registered and ready to vote on Tuesday, March 2. In fact, I hope that many have already requested an absentee ballot and used it! Prop. L will enable libraries in Santee, as well as throughout the county, to serve their communities better by:

• providing an enriched environment in which children can develop literacy skills and a love of reading. This is critically important. Teachers can take their classes to the library to do research, as well as to check out books that appeal to the interests of each student in the class. For the younger children, the story hour can be reinstated or expanded. We need Prop. L.

• providing computer and Internet work stations that will be available to students of all ages, as well as to the general public. Since few among us have not had our personal computer go down from time to time, we all may need this service. We need Prop L.

• providing and maintaining a wide variety of up-to-date reading and reference materials. Current materials on career requirements and opportunities, as well as current magazines and newspapers would be available to all of us; selections of classic and modern poetry as well as prose would be upgraded. Up-to-date historical, biographical and scientific materials will also enhance the lives of all us. We need Prop. L.

• providing a library that is well-staffed and open when the public needs it to be open! We need Prop L.

Local people will have control of local Prop. L funds. Prop. L adds 1/4 of a penny to the sales tax for only five years. Then it expires. A 2/3-vote of the people would be required to extend it. Funds raised in Santee would serve the Santee library! It's worth it! Let's do it! We need Prop L!

LOTTIE P. HESS
Santee

Prop. L just government waste

Proposition L takes bureaucrat waste to a new level by calling for a costly special election. Proposition L hasn't even passed, yet it's already costing us taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars. This is our opportunity to stop government bloat by rewarding the tax and spend bureaucrats with a NO vote. I say "L" NO and no new taxes.

JOEL ANDERSON
Alpine

A 'good little rabbit' or Peter?

The first book, albeit a very small book, that I recall was titled "Peter Rabbit." Peter was a wild rabbit who, with his mother, twin sisters Flopsy and Mopsy and younger brother Cottontail, lived in a burrow close by the dwelling place of a gardener named Mr. McGregor.

The little rabbits had firm instructions to stay away from Mr. McGregor. Apparently, as long as a rabbit followed these rules and eat wild berries, there was relative safety. Flopsy, Mopsy and Cottontail followed their mother's admonition, stayed away from Mr. McGregor - and were "good little rabbits."

But while the others were being "good little rabbits," Peter was testing the security of Mr. McGregor's garden, getting the scare of his life, losing his new clothes, and catching cold, much to the despair of his mother.

But who is this story named after? It is not "Four Little Rabbits and How They Grew." It is named for Peter. Why? Because it was Peter who dared to challenge the system.

You must realize that Peter lived in a one-parent family. Mrs Rabbit struggled to put food on the table and older son Peter felt obligated to help support himself.

This is a classic dilemma: rabbits born into poverty, living in the shadow of the middle-class gardener who was growing vegetables as a hobby. Who are we to say "naughty" to the rabbit who chances all to find his own meal at Mr. McGregor's expense?

Where would our civilization be, if it were not for the Peters, those who explored, those who invented, those who found the other side of the fence? I wonder if the author wrote "Peter Rabbit" to instill in small children loyalty to the system? I wonder if, as a small child, I sought to be a "good little rabbit," or if I imagined myself being a "Peter?" I think the content of this essay provides the answer.

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Lumn is Saint Patrick's Day Colleen, Shevlin repeats as princess

by Joe Naiman

Grossmont College grad Jenny Lumn poses with pageant emcee Mick Ward. Christina Shevlin of La Mesa (right) placed second. *Photos by Joe Naiman*

The local Irish community couldn't have picked any one more suitable to be the new Miss Colleen 1999, than Jenny Irene Lumn, who will represent them on Saint Patrick's Day.

Not only is Lumn Irish on both sides of her family, but she plays Gaelic football as well. To be picked, she had to edge out nine other contestants in the Feb. 19 pageant.

Her mother's ancestors hail from Northern Ireland and her father is a descendent of Galway emigration. Lumn's lineage also includes Native American, Dutch, Scottish and English.

Lumn, who works as a manager of Shipping Solutions Plus in Santee, enjoys film, art, photography and Gaelic football.

While watching Clan Na Gael, the local men's Gaelic football team, she became interested in the sport. When a local women's team was formed, Lumn earned a spot on the Na Fianna roster as a corner forward.

In 1998, Na Fianna went to the North American finals in Washington, D.C., defeating the Atlanta Gaels in the quarterfinals before losing to that sport's Boston Shamrocks in the semifinals.

In her studies at San Diego State, where she is a history major at San Diego State University, she has studied a number of immigrant groups in college. She is also working on a paper, which she hopes to have published in a professional journal, on the portrayal of Irish-Americans in film.

"I like using film as a historical source," said Lumn, who is hoping for a career in research and writing.

Lumn spent three months in Ireland between her graduation from Grossmont College and her enrollment at San Diego State.

She had heard about the pageant, but didn't wish to enter a beauty contest. After finding out that it was not that type of competition, Lumn entered for the first time this year.

She said, "I really hope to promote our culture here. It's a tight-knit group, but I think it has tons of potential. There are so many people with so many talents it is an undiscovered gem in San Diego – an emerald you may say."

Lumn, now age 25, played softball at Patrick Henry High School, and with her participation in Gaelic football, has significant athletic interests.

Repeating as first runner-up was Christine Shevlin, who grew up in La Mesa. She has served as Balboa Park's House of Ireland's princess twice and has been in the St. Patrick's Day parade as a dancer numerous times.

Shevlin is also in the process of founding an Irish Club at UCSD which will focus on the local Irish community and promoting Irish heritage.

Shevlin, who attended St. Martin's Academy and Grossmont High, will turn 21 on March 6. She entered the pageant for the first time last year.

The UCSD pre-med student is carrying a 3.85 grade point average and will be taking the MCAT test for medical school admission in April.

She presently works as an assistant in a knee-injury laboratory. Her current patients are cadavers, but she hopes to work on live patients soon and be able to treat the whole body.

She also volunteers at a convalescent home near the campus.

"I'd like to continue at UCSD since I have a strong family connection here as well as the Irish one," she said.

Katie Grubiak also repeated in her 1998 role as the second runner-up.

She comment that her great- grandmother's decision not to emigrate from Ireland to the United States on the Titanic, but to wait until she and her sister could both go together, thus avoiding that disaster.

That delay of a couple of years surely made it possible for Grubiak to be in the pageant these last two years.

Grubiak attended the University of Texas, where she received a four-year degree in nutrition, and works as a dietician for North County Health Services as part of the WIC program.

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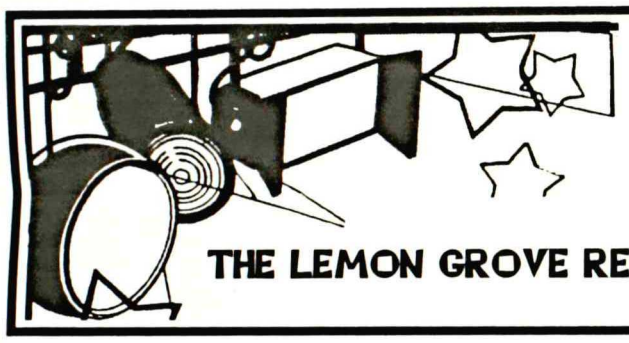

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